

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the Application.

1. (currently amended) ~~A driver for a system component sensor device in a computer system, comprising:~~  
a system component driver operable in a diagnostic mode of operation configured for enabling selective execution of diagnostic functionality on a corresponding system component sensor device while concurrently permitting execution of system management to be performed via system component sensor devices in a system management mode of operation, wherein a service processor coupled to the system component driver for enabling execution of system component driver commands to be performed remains operably accessible by a platform-side operating system while the system component driver is operating in the diagnostic mode of operation.
2. (currently amended) ~~The driver~~computer system of claim 1 wherein the diagnostic mode of operation includes disabling the corresponding system component device with respect to system management functionality and access by non-diagnostic users.
3. (currently amended) ~~The driver~~computer system of claim 1 wherein said diagnostic functionality includes at least one of:  
issuing a message indicating that the corresponding system component sensor device is inaccessible when accessed by a non-diagnostic user while the corresponding system component sensor device is in the diagnostic mode of operation;  
issuing a message to the non-diagnostic user indicating that the corresponding system component sensor device is transitioning to the

diagnostic mode of operation from the system management mode of operation; and  
issuing a message to the non-diagnostic user indicating that the corresponding system component sensor device is transitioning to the system management mode of operation from the diagnostic mode of operation.

4. (currently amended) The drivercomputer system of claim 1, further comprising:  
at least one of a parent device driver interface and a child device drive interface.
5. (currently amended) The drivercomputer system of claim 1, further comprising:  
a parent driver device interface configured for controlling modes of operation of a group of child sensor devices; and  
a plurality of child device driver interfaces each configured for controlling modes of operation of a respective one of said child sensor devices, wherein the corresponding system component sensor device is one of said sensor devices and is set to the diagnostic mode of operation using one of said device driver interfaces.

6. (currently amended) A method for facilitating diagnostic functionality in a computer system, comprising:

setting a designated sensor device of a system component to a diagnostic mode of operation;  
 executing system management functionality on system components served by non-designated sensor devices while the designated sensor device is in the diagnostic mode of operation; and  
 executing diagnostic functionality on the designated sensor device while executing said system management functionality and while the designated sensor device is in the diagnostic mode of operation, wherein concurrently executing said management and diagnostic functionalities includes a service processor coupled to the system component driver for enabling execution of system component driver commands to be performed remaining operably accessible by a platform-side operating system while the system component driver is operating in the diagnostic mode of operation.

7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein:

said setting to the diagnostic mode of operation includes setting a device driver corresponding to the designated sensor device to the diagnostic mode of operation.

8. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein:

said setting to the diagnostic mode of operation includes simultaneously setting a plurality of sensor devices to the diagnostic mode of operation; and  
 the designated sensor device is one of said sensor devices.

9. (original)The method of claim 6 wherein executing said diagnostic functionality includes at least one of:

issuing a message indicating that the corresponding system component sensor device is inaccessible when accessed by a non-diagnostic user while the corresponding system component sensor device is in the diagnostic mode of operation;

issuing a message to the non-diagnostic user indicating that the corresponding system component sensor device is transitioning to the diagnostic mode of operation from the system management mode of operation; and

issuing a message to the non-diagnostic user indicating that the corresponding system component sensor device is transitioning to the system management mode of operation from the diagnostic mode of operation.

10. (original)The method of claim 6 wherein:

said setting to the diagnostic mode of operation includes disabling the designated sensor device from at least one of providing system management functionality and being accessed by non-diagnostic users.

11. (currently amended) A computer system, comprising:

at least one data processing device;

instructions processable by said at least one data processing device; and

an apparatus from which said instructions are accessible by said at least one data processing device;

wherein said instructions are configured for enabling said at least one data processing device to facilitate:

setting a designated sensor device of a system component to a diagnostic mode of operation;

executing system management functionality on system components served by non-designated sensor devices while the designated sensor device is in the diagnostic mode of operation; and

executing diagnostic functionality on the designated sensor device while executing said system management functionality and while the designated sensor device is in the diagnostic mode of operation, wherein concurrently executing said management and diagnostic functionalities includes a service processor coupled to the system component driver for enabling execution of system component driver commands to be performed remaining operably accessible by a platform-side operating system while the system component driver is operating in the diagnostic mode of operation.

12. (original) The computer system of claim 11 wherein:

said setting to the diagnostic mode of operation includes setting a device driver corresponding to the designated sensor device to the diagnostic mode of operation.

13. (original)The computer system of claim 11 wherein:

said setting to the diagnostic mode of operation includes simultaneously setting a plurality of sensor devices to the diagnostic mode of operation; and  
the designated sensor device is one of said sensor devices.

14. (original)The computer system of claim 11 wherein executing said diagnostic

functionality includes at least one of:

issuing a message indicating that the corresponding system component sensor device is inaccessible when accessed by a non-diagnostic user while the corresponding system component sensor device is in the diagnostic mode of operation;

issuing a message to the non-diagnostic user indicating that the corresponding system component sensor device is transitioning to the diagnostic mode of operation from the system management mode of operation; and

issuing a message to the non-diagnostic user indicating that the corresponding system component sensor device is transitioning to the system management mode of operation from the diagnostic mode of operation.

15. (original)The computer system of claim 11 wherein:

said setting to the diagnostic mode of operation includes disabling the designated sensor device from at least one of providing system management functionality and being accessed by non-diagnostic users.

16. (original)The computer system of claim 11 wherein:

said data processing instructions comprises a device driver including at least one of a parent device driver interface and a child device drive interface; and

said setting the designated sensor device of a system component to a diagnostic mode of operation is facilitated using at least one of the parent driver device interface and the child drive interface.

17. (original)The computer system of claim 11 wherein:

said data processing program comprises a parent driver device interface configured for controlling modes of operation of a group of child sensor devices and child device driver interface configured for controlling a respective mode of operation of a respective one of said child sensor devices; and

said setting the designated sensor device of a system component to a diagnostic mode of operation is facilitated using at least one of the parent driver device interface and the child drive interface.